

**California Department of Transportation
Native American Advisory Committee
Environmental Subcommittee Meeting**

**August 22, 2002
Minutes**

In attendance:

Aaron L. T-Holstine, Transportation Planner, Robinson Rancheria
Alex Morales, California DOT, Civil Rights, HQ
Cassandra Hensher, California DOT, Environmental Planner, District 10
Chuck Striplen, Planner, Graton Rancheria
Cynthia Duey, California DOT, Contracts, HQ
Cynthia Gomez, California DOT, Native American Liaison Branch, HQ
Darold Heikens, California DOT, Project Manager for Roadside Management and Design, HQ
Derek Sheldon, Transportation Planning Coordinator, Mooretown Rancheria
Diana Hershey, Planner, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo,
Frank Ross, Cultural Manager, Graton Rancheria
Greg King, California DOT, Environmental Analysis, HQ
Jane Perez, California DOT, Senior Transportation Planner, District 10
Jody Brown, California DOT, Environmental Analysis, District 3
Karen Nissen, California DOT, Environmental Planner, District 6
Kathleen Zahniser, California DOT, Transportation Planner, District 10
Kathleen Sartorius, California DOT, Native American Liaison, North Region, Planning
Lisa Cathcart Randall, California DOT, Environmental Planner, District 10
Marta E. Frausto, California DOT, Transportation Planner, District 6
Meyo Marrufo, Cultural Resources Manager, Robinson Rancheria
Rancheria
Randy Yonemura
Seana Gause, California DOT, Environmental Planner, District 4
Shannon Ford, Planner, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo
Tim Keesey, Environmental Technician, Susanville Rancheria
Tina Biorn, California DOT, Environmental Analysis, Cultural Studies, HQ

Welcome and introductions were made. Special recognition and appreciation was given to the Graton Rancheria for the hospitality of hosting the meeting at their Tribal office.

Approval of the Minutes of May 23, 2002. Kathleen Sartorius commented that a few names were left out of the minutes of some Caltrans staff that attended the meeting. This will be corrected. Karen Nissen said she would send some corrections by e-mail to Jila Priebe.

Agenda Items:

Status Report/STIP & SHOPP maps

Cynthia Gomez requested from the Liaisons that any additional changes to the STIP and SHOPP maps be sent to Jila Priebe as soon as possible. The SHOPP and STIP maps are to be used as planning tools for the Tribes as well as Caltrans staff; however, it is not intended to document the ancestral lands for the Section 106 consultation requirements. There was some discussion regarding a couple of tribes that have their tribal offices located in different districts from their original homelands to alert our staff that they may need to contact a tribe who's office is in a different district. Cynthia asked the Liaisons to forward to Jila, their suggestions how to make this clear on the maps. An example is the Washoe Tribe. Their Tribal office is in Nevada, however they have a tribal community in D-10 and concerns in D-3. The maps for D-3 and 10 would be given to the Washoe tribe to show the projects (which is not all inclusive) that may have an impact to their communities, so they would know which district to contact for further information.

Legislative Status Report

A brief update was given on the status of two State legislative bills SB 1828 and SB 1816, which could have an impact on Native American sacred sites.

Contracting

Cynthia Duey, Contracting Officer for Caltrans gave a brief presentation on the status of contracting with Native Americans and/or Tribal Governments for monitoring services. She indicated that she received verbal approval from the Department of General Services to exempt this contracting activity from the regular contracting process, which would require competitive bids. When she receives written approval, she will forward this information to the Caltrans' Environmental Cultural Studies Program and Native American Branch.

Monitors and the Policy for Selection of Monitors

Tina Biorn provided two documents to the Subcommittee: 1) A draft memo for the Subcommittee's review, regarding policy and practice for employing Native American monitors; and 2) Guidelines for Monitors/Consultant Native American Cultural, Religious, and Burial Sites. The Subcommittee had some suggestions for changes to the memo, which included; adding a distinction between consultation and the need for monitors; changing the title of the subject to "*Clarification of current* policy and practice for employing Native American monitors"; and adding that an archeologist needs to be present during the construction of projects where there are known cultural resources. Any suggestions should be sent to Tina for further consideration.

The Subcommittee chose to meet in the near future to discuss the policy for the selection of monitors in more detail. A tentative date for the meeting was set for September 17, 2002 in the Sacramento area.

Wrap-Up

Announcements were made:

- ✓ The Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in collaboration with Federal Highway Administration, and the National Indian Justice Center will conduct an environmental justice training on September 11, 2002, hosted by the Robinson Rancheria.
- ✓ The next Native American Advisory Committee meeting will be held on October 23, 2002 in Woodland.

Handouts included:

- ✓ PEAR Handbook (Guidelines for the Preparation of the Preliminary Environmental Analysis Report)
- ✓ Memo from Department of Transportation, Transportation Planning Program, regarding: IGR/Encroachment Permit Policies dated March 4, 2002.
- ✓ Draft of Chapter 3 of the Environmental Handbook, Volume 2, Native American Cultural Studies
- ✓ Notice of Proposed Rule affecting Tribal Historic Preservation Offices
- ✓ Publication by David Lim, The California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 2001

Meeting adjourned.